From:	Simmons, Denise
To:	Tomer Ilan
Subject:	Re: Please vote against the proposal to divest from Hewlett-Packard
Date:	Tuesday, April 24, 2018 11:31:13 AM
Attachments:	image.png image.png

Dear Tomer Ilan,

Thank you for your email. So far, I have not yet seen an actual draft of the proposed resolution asking the City to cease purchasing HP equipment and supplies. I understand there's been a great deal of concern in the community about this matter – yet I must underscore that **this will only appear on the City Council's agenda if one or more City Councilors sponsor it.** We will not know if it is on the agenda until either a City Councilor publicly declares that they'll be sponsoring this (to my knowledge, this has not happened), or until the agenda is finalized by the Clerk's Office and posted online on the Thursday evening around 5:30 pm prior to the Monday City Council meeting (indeed, I had originally heard that the organization looking to have this sponsored was hoping to get this placed on the agenda for April 23. It was NOT on last night's agenda, but the organization may be recalculating as to when they think this *can* be introduced). I can, at the very least, confirm that *I* am not a sponsor of such a resolution.

There have been numerous passionate op-eds, emails, and social media posts condemning the City Council for drafting this resolution, for rushing this to a vote without adequate opportunities for the public to weigh in, nor even giving people a chance to read the resolution. Some people have condemned the City Council for seemingly being on the brink of passing this resolution, or for seemingly being on the brink of rejecting it. None of these scenarios are accurate. While I understand the passion behind this matter, I must clarify that we do not yet actually have a resolution or policy order in front of us, there has been absolutely no debate about this amongst the City Councilors, and the City Council will not have an opportunity to take this up for consideration *unless and until* a resolution is sponsored by at least one of us and introduced at a public meeting. At this point, I am not yet certain if such a resolution will be introduced or not.

I appreciate your reaching out and sharing your views on this. I am currently reading up on this issue to be better informed, I am reviewing all the emails and letters coming in about this issue, and I am reaching out to our representatives in Congress to seek their input on an issue that is more international than municipal in scope. Should this matter end up before the City Council – either on April 30 or at a later date – I will look forward to engaging in a thoughtful discussion and debate with my colleagues on the Council and then seeing how to best resolve this matter in a way that allows everyone to feel they have had a fair chance to be heard. Thank you.

E. Denise Simmons

From: Tomer Ilan <tomerila@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2018 10:45 AM
To: City Council; Carlone, Dennis; Devereux, Jan; Kelley, Craig; Mallon, Alanna; Siddiqui, Sumbul;

Simmons, Denise; Toomey, Tim; Zondervan, Quinton

Subject: Please vote against the proposal to divest from Hewlett-Packard

Hello,

With regards to proposed Motion to divest from Hewlett-Packard, as this Motion is proposed by the Boycott Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement, I would like to draw your attention to some aspects of the BDS movement, to provide additional context to their Divestment proposal.

1. Several statements by BDS leaders indicate that the real goal of the BDS movement is the destruction of the Jewish State of Israel . For instance, Omar Barghouti, the founder of the BDS movement has said "most definitely we oppose a Jewish state in any part of Palestine.". Video footage of his speech can be found here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vYypsGd8K4Y

2. BDS groups have been supporting terrorism, have been convicted of violent crimes, hounding Israeli/Jewish businesses, and are engaging in antisemitic racist hate speech and Holocaust denial.

3. Several BDS groups supports a convicted terrorist - Rasmea Odeh - who murdered 2 American students in a supermarket bombing. Please see screenshot below.

4. HAMAS, an organization classified by the United States, Canada, the European Union, Egypt, Israel, Australia and Japan as a terrorist organization, has praised BDS on its official twitter account on July 5, 2017, link and screenshot below

https://twitter.com/hamasinfoen/status/882627719829303296?lang=en

5. The US Congress has heard testimony on BDS fundraising for HAMAS terrorist group:

http://docs.house.gov/meetings/FA/FA18/20160419/104817/HHRG-114-FA18-Wstate-SchanzerJ-20160419.pdf

6. Several European countries have closed BDS bank accounts in major German, Austrian, Spanish and Irish banks. The accounts were closed due to BDS links to terrorist groups (Hamas, Islamic Jihad etc).

https://www.rte.ie/news/2016/1002/820919-ireland-palestine-banking/

http://www.thetower.org/5994-for-second-time-in-a-month-paypal-shuts-account-of-french-anti-israel-boycotters/

https://www.algemeiner.com/2016/05/19/french-bank-closes-account-of-bds-group/

7. BDS activists have been engaged in antisemitic hate speech. BDS activists in France have been convicted of Holocaust denial in France in 2016: http://www.savemysweden.com/bds-activists-in-france-convicted-of-holocaust-denial/

8. BDS activists have been engaged in criminal violent intimidation and hounding of Jeiwsh and Israeli owned businesses. In the UK on July 18, 2017 BDS activists were convicted of aggravated trespass and of failing to follow police orders and on September 30, 2017 - the leader of the BDS Campaign was found guilty of racial aggravated hate crime. http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/09/30/jeremy-corbyn-backed-groups-activists-hounded-jewish-business/

In summary, the proposed Divestment proposal is part of a larger movement which aims to destroy the Jewish State of Israel, has strong links to proscribed terrorist organizations and engages in violence and racist hate

speech.

If you against the destruction of Israel, against terrorism and against racism and hate speech, you should vote against the divestment proposal.

Best Regards,

Tomer Ilan

Appendix A - Hamas statement supporting the BDS movement

Appendix B - Students for Justice in Palestine, a BDS group, supporting Rasmea Odeh, a convicted terrorist who murdered two American students

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